

CLAIMS

That which is claimed is:

1. A band having a plurality of joined links, each link comprising:
 - a cover member;
 - an extension element defining a first channel and a second channel;
 - a first springbar extending through the first channel to secure the extension element to the cover member; and
 - a second springbar extending through the second channel to join the extension element to an adjacent cover member,

the cover member being configured to join with an adjacent extension element that is separate from the extension element.
2. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the cover member includes a first pair of apertures that receive end portions of the first springbar to secure the extension element to the cover member.
3. The band recited in claim 2, wherein the cover member includes a second pair of apertures that receive end portions of an adjacent springbar to join the adjacent extension element to the cover member.
4. The band recited in claim 2, wherein the cover member has primary surface and a pair of sidewalls extending outward from the primary surface, and each sidewall defines one of the pair of apertures.
5. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the band includes a first portion and a second portion that are each secured to a case of a timepiece.

6. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the cover member is formed of a metal material.
7. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the extension element is formed of a flexible polymer material.
8. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the extension element is formed of urethane.
9. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the first springbar and the second springbar each include a tubular member and a pair of depressible end portions.
10. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the adjacent extension element is positioned opposite the adjacent cover member.
11. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the cover, the extension element, the first springbar, and the second springbar form a link of the band.
12. The band recited in claim 11, wherein a plurality of the link are joined together to form the band.
13. The band recited in claim 12, wherein a first plurality of the link are joined together to form a first band portion, and a second plurality of the link are joined together to form a second band portion.
14. The band recited in claim 13, wherein the first band portion and the second band portion each include an end that is configured to join with a case of a timepiece.

15. The band recited in claim 13, wherein a clasp joins an end of the first band portion with an end of the second band portion.

16. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the first channel is substantially parallel to the second channel.

17. The band recited in claim 1, wherein the cover member is positioned on an exterior of the band, and the extension element is positioned to contact a wrist of a wearer.

18. A band comprising:

a first cover member having a first connection point;

a second cover member having a second connection point;

an extension element having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion defining a first channel extending laterally through the extension element, and the second portion defining a second channel extending laterally through the extension element, the first channel being substantially parallel to the second channel;

a first springbar positioned within the first channel and joined with the first connection point to secure the extension element to the first cover member;

a second springbar positioned within the second channel and joined with the second connection point to secure the extension element to the second cover member; and

a pair of adjacent extension elements positioned on opposite sides of the extension element, one of the adjacent extension elements being secured to the first cover member, and another of the adjacent extension elements being secured to the second cover member.

19. The band recited in claim 18, wherein the band includes a first band portion and a second band portion that each include an end configured to join with the a case of a timepiece.

20. The band recited in claim 19, wherein the first cover member, extension element, first springbar, and second springbar form a link, a first plurality of the link being joined together to form the first band portion, and a second plurality of the link being joined together to form the second band portion.

21. The band recited in claim 19, wherein a clasp joins an end of the first band portion with an end of the second band portion.

22. The band recited in claim 18, wherein the first connection point is a pair of apertures in the first cover member, the pair of apertures receiving end portions of the first springbar to secure the extension element to the first cover member.

23. The band recited in claim 22, wherein the first cover member has primary surface and a pair of sidewalls extending outward from the primary surface, and each sidewall defines one of the pair of apertures.

24. The band recited in claim 18, wherein the first cover member and the second cover member are formed of a metal material.

25. The band recited in claim 18, wherein the extension element is formed of a flexible polymer material.

26. The band recited in claim 18, wherein the first springbar and the second springbar each include a tubular member and a pair of compressible end portions.

27. The band recited in claim 26, wherein the depressible end portions of the first springbar extend into apertures in the first cover member to secure the extension element to the first cover member.

28. The band recited in claim 18, wherein the first cover member and second cover member are positioned on an exterior of the band, and the extension element is positioned to contact a wrist of a wearer.

29. A wrist-worn timepiece comprising:

a case that defines a recess;

a timing element positioned within the recess; and

a band extending from at least one side of the case, the band having a plurality of links, each link including a cover member, an extension element, a first springbar extending through a first channel in the extension element to secure the extension element to the cover member, and a second springbar extending through a second channel in the extension element to join the extension element to an adjacent link.

30. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein a crystal extends over the timing element, the crystal being formed of an at least partially transparent material.

31. The timepiece recited in claim 30, wherein the cover member extends over at least a portion of the crystal.

32. The timepiece recited in claim 31, the first springbar extends through a connector area of the case and joins the band to the case, and the first springbar includes a pair of end portions that extend through apertures in the cover member to secure the cover member to the case.

33. The timepiece recited in claim 30, wherein a pair of the cover member extend over at least a portion of the crystal.

34. The timepiece recited in claim 30, wherein a pair of the cover member extend over opposite sides of the crystal, the timing element being visible between the pair of the cover member.

35. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the cover member includes a first pair of apertures that receive end portions of the first springbar to secure the extension element to the cover member.

36. The band recited in claim 35, wherein the cover member has primary surface and a pair of sidewalls extending outward from the primary surface, and each sidewall defines one of the pair of apertures.

37. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the cover member is configured to join with an adjacent extension element that is separate from the extension element.

38. The timepiece recited in claim 37, wherein the cover member includes apertures that receive end portions of an adjacent springbar to join the adjacent extension element to the cover member.

39. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the cover member is formed of a metal material.

40. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the extension element is formed of a flexible polymer material.

41. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the extension element is formed of urethane.
42. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the first springbar and the second springbar each include a tubular member and a pair of depressible end portions.
43. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein a first portion of the links are joined together to form a first band portion, and a second portion of the links are joined together to form a second band portion.
44. The timepiece recited in claim 43, wherein the first band portion and the second band portion each include an end that is configured to join with the case.
45. The timepiece recited in claim 43, wherein a clasp joins an end of the first band portion with an end of the second band portion.
46. The timepiece recited in claim 29, wherein the first channel is substantially parallel to the second channel.
47. A wrist-worn timepiece comprising:
 - a case that defines a recess;
 - a timing element positioned within the recess;
 - a crystal extending over the timing element, the crystal being formed of an at least partially transparent material; and
 - a band extending from at least one side of the case, the band having a plurality of links joined by springbars, the band including a cover member extending over at least a portion of the crystal.

48. The timepiece recited in claim 47, wherein one of the springbars extends through a connector area of the case and joins the band to the case, and the one of the springbars includes a pair of end portions that extend through apertures in the cover member to secure the cover member to the case.

49. The timepiece recited in claim 47, wherein a pair of the cover member extend over the crystal.

50. The timepiece recited in claim 47, wherein a pair of the cover member extend over opposite sides of the crystal, the timing element being visible between the pair of the cover member.